

Neighborhood Advisory Committee Minutes

January 26, 2015

Public Works Building, 6:30 pm

Committee Members Attending:

DeWayne Barton, Saul Chase, Alan Escovitz, Joe Fioccola, Pastor Spencer Hardaway, Teddy Jordan, Barber Melton and Elaine Poovey.

City Council Liaison: Chris Pelly

Neighborhood Coordinator: Marsha Stickford

Item I: Welcome, Approval of Minutes of January 12 Meeting: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chairman Elaine. The minutes of the January 12, 2015 meeting were approved without objection as distributed.

Item II: Final Discussion/Adoption of Annual Report:

Saul reported that most of the subcommittee had met once on January 15 and agreed on 3 recommendations. Since then several additional ideas have emerged that have not been discussed by most of the members of the subcommittee but which have been emailed to the full committee.

The full committee then discussed the percentage analysis of the Matrix including whether to include it in the Annual Report or to just include the Matrix itself. Marsha suggested that a link to the document could be inserted into the Annual Report. It was generally agreed that the Vision, Mission and Goals should occupy the Addendum. Then Saul edited the summary paragraph of the Report from the Neighborhoods. He also edited some recommendations and others were added from the full committee and adopted as follows:

Report from the Neighborhoods::

Over the last two years the committee has met with about 50 of the organized neighborhoods in every area of the City of Asheville. These neighborhoods are a diverse group racially, economically and socially who care about their neighborhoods and love their city. Their biggest concern centered on the issue of traffic. Traffic calming, increased traffic, cut through and truck traffic are commonly expressed concerns throughout our neighborhoods. The next biggest concerns are sidewalks and pedestrian safety followed by neighborhood safety including drug traffic and break-ins. The committee created a matrix to plot which areas had these and other issues.

Recommendations from the Committee:

- 1- Include Neighborhoods in the Asheville City Council's Strategic Plan.*
- 2- Assure neighborhoods understand how the City's resources are allocated in a fair, open, transparent and accountable way.*
- 3- Engage and gain the trust of the African American Community by positive interactions with the members of the Asheville City Council, the Asheville Police and City Planning Department.*
- 4- Increase funding to neighborhood infrastructure so that it has an impact on quality of life and safety such as sidewalk construction, traffic calming, street sweeping and leaf pick up.*

Item III. Website Profile Report: Elaine reported that she had received profiles thanks to DeWayne from EWANA and Hall Fletcher. Barber has yet to receive any from 28804 and just one from 28805-Parkway Forest. From 28803 Teddy had groups #24-34 from the list and has received replies from Biltmore Park, Blake Mountain, Devonshire and Kenilworth. She followed up again with those that had not replied, without any further success. Spencer will follow up with Shiloh and Crowfields. Marsha reported that the map has been updated and a content manager has been hired and soon but after the City Council Planning Retreat (Starting at 9 am the Friday January 30 at the Civic Center) they would meet. Elaine will send a link to committee members of a Neighborhood Website from Tucson Arizona that she thought was especially effective. She will also send Marsha the profiles we have received so far. DeWayne will follow up with Burton Street and Pisgah View Apartments.

Item IV: Festival of Neighborhoods Workshops: Elaine reported on a site visit at AB-Tech on January 22 with Teddy and Joe. They met Martha Shanks and toured the Ferguson Auditorium and classrooms. Six spaces are reserved for the workshops and tables for the tri-fold displays, and storage and serving of finger foods. Budget questions were raised. Teddy has a list of food and serving items such as napkins, cups, plates and ice. She will prepare an estimate to plan for 150 attendees and email Elaine. After the 150 planned turnout # was stated, Marsha recommended we plan for 170. Barber will see if CAN will contribute as a co-sponsor again. Chris reported that the Mayor had confirmed. Elaine noted that the Chancellor of AB Tech would be offered a few minutes to welcome attendees. Elaine needs a brief paragraph from Keith McCulloch, Alan, and the CPAC team of Debbie Applewhite and Larry Holt. She already has them from Tracy and Joan Miller.

Chris raised the question of turnout. Elaine thanked Marsha for sending out the Save the Date email. She will send the official invitation when she gets the information from the workshop leaders. Then committee members will need to follow up by zip codes and respond back to Elaine. The building will be open at noon for set up and

neighborhood displays can be brought in at 1. Elaine suggested the need for at least ten directional parking signs. DeWayne suggested the committee invest in NAC signs for use at future meetings. Chris will check for 'real estate' signs that may be re-purposed. Elaine announced that there will be no pre-registration for any of the workshops and she would prepare an evaluation sheet.

Item V: Meeting attended by Committee Members: Saul had none. Alan attended the Forum for Short Term Rentals, the Grove Park/Sunset Board and the Board of Adjustment. Spencer attended the ABCRC and ABIPA and Hall Fletcher: One Youth At A Time. Barber was on the Short Term Rental Panel, and attended a CAN meeting and Haw Creek Board and Housing Consortium Meetings. Joe attended the Short term Rentals, and the CDBG Five Year Plan meeting at the Grant Center. Teddy had been to the Green Works meeting, Kenilworth Residents, and Planning and Zoning and for the Overlook Park at the White Fawn Reservoir. DeWayne was also at the 5 Year Planning, Stop the Violence, and Hood Talk at PVA. Elaine attended the Boards and Commissions meeting, Short Term Rentals, AB Tech Site visit, Falconhurst Neighborhood. .

Item VI: Other: DeWayne asked if the Non-Violence Committee could have a table at the Festival workshops?

Item VII Agenda Items for February 23, 2015 meeting:

- I- Update Festival of Neighborhoods II: Workshops;
- II- State of Black Asheville Discussion (DeWayne will invite Sir Charles Gardner)
- III- Website update
- IV- Discussion: Follow through on area plans and lack of communication between City Departments.
- V- Meetings attended by Committee Members
- VI- Other
- VII- Agenda Items for March 30 Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm by Elaine.

Minutes submitted by Joe Fioccola, Secretary